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Agenda item 165

Observer status for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Jean-Cédric **Janssens de Bisthoven** (Belgium)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Observer status for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in the General Assembly" was included in the agenda of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly at the request of Switzerland.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 18 September 2009, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 10th and 14th meetings, on 15 and 23 October 2009. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.6/64/SR.10 and 14).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a letter dated 1 July 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/64/142).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.6/64/L.6

5. At the 10th meeting, on 15 October, the representative of Switzerland, on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay,

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Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Observer status for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in the General Assembly" (A/C.6/64/L.6). Subsequently, Albania, the Central African Republic, Mongolia and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 14th meeting, on 23 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/64/L.6 without a vote (see para. 8).

7. The representatives of Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic and Iran (Islamic Republic of) spoke in explanation of position after the adoption of the draft resolution (see A/C.6/64/SR.14).

III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

8. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Observer status for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.